

REMARKS

In order to place this application in condition for a complete action on the merits, the specification has been suitably revised to correct informalities and bring it into better conformance with U.S. practice. The title of the invention has been changed to "STEP MOTOR CONTROL DEVICE AND ELECTRONIC TIMEPIECE EQUIPPED WITH STEP MOTOR CONTROL DEVICE" to more clearly reflect the invention to which the amended and new claims are directed. A new, more descriptive abstract has been substituted for the original abstract.

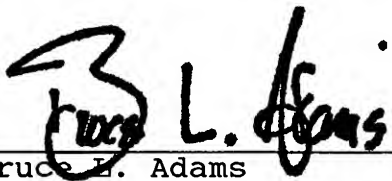
Original independent claim 1 has been amended to provide a broader scope of coverage by deleting the subject matter recited in the "wherein" clauses which further define the functions of the control means and the detecting means. The subject matter covered by the "wherein" clauses of original independent claim 1 is now recited in newly added claims 5-7 which depend on claim 1. Original claims 1-4 have also been amended in formal respects to improve the wording and bring them into better conformance with U.S. practice. New claims 8-20 have been added to provide a more comprehensive scope of coverage. Adequate support for the subject matter recited in the newly added claims may be found in the specification as originally filed.

Early and favorable action on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date